

Remarks

In the office action, claims 1-32 were presented, claims 1, 2, 8-10, 16-18, 24-26 and 32 were rejected, and claims 3-7, 11-15, 19-23, and 27-31 were objected to. By this amendment, claims 2, 3, 10, 11, 18, 19, 26, 27 have been canceled. And, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28-32 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-25, 28-32 remain in this application.

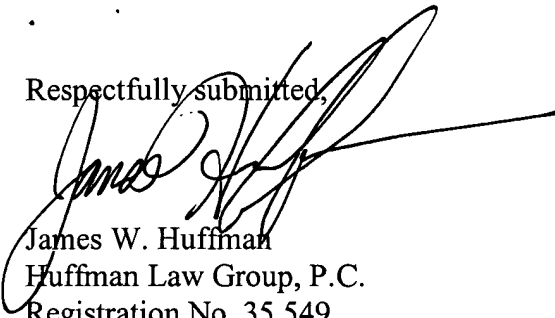
Applicant appreciates the examiner considering the previously presented arguments, and his indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-7, 11-15, 19-23, and 27-31. Rather than canceling the independent claims (i.e., 1, 9, 17, 24) and rewriting the dependent claims in independent claim form, applicant has amended the independent claims to include the limitations of the allowed claims. This allows all dependent claims to be considered allowable since the independent claims from which they depend are considered allowable by the examiner.

Applicant further notes that he has reviewed the art cited by the examiner, and believes that the claims as originally presented should have been allowable over the art. However, to place this case in condition for allowance, applicant has chosen to conform this amendment to the examiner's recommendations, and to postpone argument over the art to a continuation application.

Applicant believes that he has placed this case in condition for allowance, and such allowance is requested.

Applicant earnestly requests the examiner to telephone him at the direct dial number printed below if the examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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By: Wicki J. [Signature]